GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4289
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Mandatory Aadhaar Cards
Singh Shri Rakesh;Suman Shri Balka

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a step to better targeting subsidies and checking leakages, the Government has made it mandatory to have an Aadhaar number for availing benefits under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), if so, the details thereof;
(b) the details including number of beneficiary households which have linked their ration cards with Aadhaar number, State-wise;
(c) whether the Government also plans a cashless PDS to ensure 100 per cent digital payments, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
(d) whether the linking of Aadhaar with Ration Cards is being done with the purpose of directly transferring the foodgrain subsidy into bank accounts, if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the same is likely to create problems for the differently abled and poor senior citizens in biometric identification due to faulty machines, if so, the details of the remedial action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a) & (b): Department has issued a Notification on 8.2.2017 under Aadhaar Act which requires individual beneficiaries under NFSA to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication to receive subsidies under NFSA (i.e. subsidised food grains or Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy under NFSA). Beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar are required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by 30th June, 2017 to get enrolled. Till the Aadhaar is assigned to the entitlements shall be given to such individuals on production of Ration Card and Aadhaar Enrolment ID slip or copy of his/her request made to State Govt. for Aadhaar enrolment along with any of the 8 documents e.g. Voter ID Card, PAN, Passport, Driving Licence, Certificate of Identity with photo issued by Gazetted Officer/Tehsildar on official letter head, Address card having name and photo issued by Deptt. of Posts, Kisan Photo Passbook, any other document as specified by State/UT Govt. etc. The present status of Aadhaar seeding in Ration Cards (State-wise) is enclosed as annexure-I.
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(c): Department has prepared a detailed roadmap and an action plan along-with State-wise targets to implement the various modes of cashless transactions. However, complete roll out of the strategy for cashless mechanism depends on readiness of the States/UTs, availability of adequate infrastructure, status of financial inclusion, level of Aadhaar seeding, awareness level of beneficiaries and telecom coverage etc. Accordingly, all States/UTs Governments have been advised to adopt a phase wise approach, starting with Metropolitan Cities, Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, District Headquarters and other urban areas where the conditions allow for an effective implementation and then eventually expanding it to semi-urban and rural areas.
(d): The seeding of Aadhaar number with Ration Cards is being done for the purpose of correct identification and de-duplication of beneficiaries for rightful targeting of food subsidies i.e. removal of ghost/fraudulent/duplicate/ineligible beneficiaries as a result of Aadhaar based de-duplication.
(e): The FPS automation involves, installation of Point of Sale (PoS) devices at FPS for authentication of beneficiaries, recording of sales to beneficiaries at the FPS; and uploading of transaction data in central server. Out of 5.26 lakh FPSs across the country, about 1.79 lakh FPSs have been automated so far. The biometric authentication is done through scanning of finger prints or iris and there is no denial of food grains to an entitled beneficiary due to faulty ePoS machine.
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Annex
ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 4289 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH, 2017 IN LOK SABHA.
Status of Aadhaar Seeding in Ration Cards *
Sl.
States/UTs
Total Ration Cards (Under NFSA)
Aadhaar Seeding (%)
1
Andaman & Nicobar
13,370
97
2
Andhra Pradesh
94,36,026
100
3
Arunachal Pradesh

1,76,342
44.50
4
Assam
57,55,686
0
5
Bihar
1,54,01,000
49.27
6
Chandigarh
59,402
100
7
Chhattisgarh
53,68,000
97
8
Dadra & Nagar Haveli
42,536
94
9
Daman & Diu
24,120
100
10
Delhi
19,45,358
100
11
Goa
1,38,361
89
12
Gujarat
72,30,246
93
13
Haryana
29,41,138
91
14
Himachal Pradesh
6,99,584
96
15
Jammu and Kashmir
15,97,288
62
16
Jharkhand
57,56,766
96
17
Karnataka
1,05,48,106
98
18
Kerala
34,33,036
98
19
Lakshadweep
5,110
98
20
Madhya Pradesh
1,15,37,855
89
21

Maharashtra
1,48,28,050
87
22
Manipur
5,17,093
1.28
23
Meghalaya
4,21,548
0
24
Mizoram
1,43,315
11.86
25
Nagaland
2,83,581
6.50
26
Odisha
86,13,870
86
27
Puducherry
1,62,456
100
28
Punjab
36,35,425
97
29
Rajasthan
1,02,05,458
95
30
Sikkim
96,911
73
31
Tamil Nadu
98,29,111
99
32
Telangana
49,27,847
100
33
Tripura
5,90,117
92.55
34
Uttar Pradesh
3,41,20,299
75
35
Uttarakhand
13,30,404
90
36
West Bengal
6,01,85,092
62
Total
23,19,99,907
76.83%
* Information maintained Ration Cards wise
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